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We Claim:

1. A spark plug comprising:

an insulator;

a marking layer formed on a surface of the insulator;

5 and

a glaze layer covering the marking layer so that
the marking layer can be seen through the glaze layer,

wherein the glaze layer comprises 5 mol% or less
of a Pb component in terms of PbO, and the tint of the
10 marking layer seen through the glaze layer is 3 or less
in the brightness specified by JIS: 28721 as well as 3
in the chroma specified by JIS: 28721, or 4 or
less in the brightness specified by JIS: 28721 as well
as 2 or less in the chroma specified by JIS: 28721.

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2. The spark plug as set forth in claim 1, wherein
the glaze layer further comprises a Zn component.

3. The spark plug as set forth in claim 2, wherein
20 the glaze layer comprises 1 to 5 mol% of the Zn component
in terms of PbO.

4. The spark plug as set forth in claim 1, wherein
25 the marking layer further comprises a tint of 1 to 3
in the brightness specified by JIS: 28721 as well as 1 to 2
in the chroma specified by JIS: 28721.

5. The spark plug as set forth in claim 4, wherein
the marking layer comprises at least one of Fe and Mn,
and at least one of Cr and Co as metal components.

5 6. The spark plug as set forth in claim 5, wherein
the marking layer comprises Fe and Cr as metal components.

7. The spark plug as set forth in claim 6, wherein
the marking layer comprises 30 to 60 mass% of the Fe
10 component in terms of Fe₂O₃, and 10 to 40 mass% of the
Cr component in terms of Cr₂O₃.

8. The spark plug as set forth in claim 7, wherein
the marking layer comprises 10 to 25 mass% of the Cr
15 component in terms of Cr₂O₃.

9. The spark plug as set forth in claim 4, wherein
the marking layer comprises 10 to 40 mass% of a Co component
in terms of CoO.

20 10. The spark plug as set forth in claim 4, wherein
the marking layer further comprises 0.1 to 15 mass% of
a Cr component in terms of Cr₂O₃.

25 11. The spark plug as set forth in claim 4,
wherein the marking layer further comprises 0.1 to 15 mass% of
a Mn component in terms of MnO₂.

the marking layer comprises 0.5 to 15 mass% in total of at least one of an Al component and a Ba component, the Al component being in terms of Al_2O_3 and the Ba component being in terms of BaO .

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12. A spark plug having:

an insulator;

a marking layer formed on a surface of the insulator;

and

10 a glaze layer covering the marking layer so that the marking layer can be seen through the glaze layer, wherein the glaze layer comprises 5 mass% or less of a Pb component in terms of PbO and 1 to 10 mass% of a Sn component in terms of ZnO , and the marking layer comprises 30 to 60 mass% of an Fe component in terms of Fe_3O_4 , and 10 to 40 mass% of a Cr component in terms of Cr_2O_3 .

13. The spark plug as set forth in claim 12, wherein 20 the marking layer comprises 10 to 20 mass% of the Cr component in terms of Cr_2O_3 .

14. The spark plug as set forth in claim 12, wherein the marking layer comprises 10 to 20 mass% of the Cr component in terms of Cr_2O_3 .

15. The spark plug as set forth in claim 12, wherein
the marking layer further comprises 0.5 to 15 masses of
a Ni component in terms of NiO_2 .

6 16. The spark plug as set forth in claim 12, wherein
the marking layer comprises 0.5 to 15 masses in total of
at least one of an Al component and a Ba component, the
Al component being in terms of Al_2O_3 and the Ba component
being in terms of BaO .